

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 31st August 1878.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of copies issued.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Bhārat Shramajivī"	Barāhanagar	4,000	
2	"Rājshāhye Sambād"	Rājshāhye ... ..	.....
3	"Grāmvārttā Prakāshikā"	Comercolly	200	
4	"Arya Pratibhā"	Bhavanīpore ... ..	.....
5	"Suhrid"	Calcutta ... ..	.....
<i>Bi-monthly.</i>				
6	"Cālnā Prakāsh"	Cālnā ... ..	.....
7	"Hindu Lalanā"	Nawābgang, Barrack-pore. ... ..	.....
8	"Sahayogī"	Bhavanīpore, Calcutta ... ..	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	"Banga Hitaishi"	Bhavanīpore, Calcutta ... ..	.....
10	"Bhārat Mihir"	Mymensingh	658	22nd August 1878.
11	"Bhārat Sanskarak"	Harinābhi ... ..	.....	23rd ditto.
12	"Bengal Advertiser"	Ditto ... ..	.....
13	"Bishwa Dūt"	Tāliganj, Calcutta ... ..	.....	28th ditto.
14	"Bardwān Prachārikā"	Bardwān	165	27th ditto.
15	"Bardwān Sanjivani"	Ditto ... ..	.....
16	"Dacca Prakāsh"	Dacca	400	25th ditto.
17	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	1,168	23rd ditto.
18	"Grāmvārttā Prakāshikā"	Comercolly	200	28th ditto.
19	"Hindu Hitaishini"	Dacca	300	
20	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rājshāhye... ..	.....	21st ditto.
21	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Berhampore ... ..	.....	23rd ditto.
22	"Pratikār"	Ditto	235	23rd ditto.
23	"Rangpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kākinī, Rangpore	250	22nd ditto.
24	"Sādhārani"	Chinsurah	516	25th ditto.
25	"Sahachara"	Calcutta ... ..	.....	26th ditto.
26	"Sambād Bhāskar"	Ditto ... ..	.....
27	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Ditto	5,500	24th ditto.
28	"Soma Prakāsh"	Bhavanīpore	700	26th ditto.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
29	"Banga Mitra"	Calcutta	4,000	
<i>Daily.</i>				
30	"Sambād Prabhākar"	Calcutta	550	23rd to 29th August 1878.
31	"Sambād Pūrnachandrodaya"	Ditto ... ..	.....	23rd to 28th and 30th August 1878.
32	"Samāchār Chandrikā"	Ditto	625	23rd to 29th August 1878.
33	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto ... ..	.....	23rd and 24th ditto.
34	"Arya Mihir"	Ditto ... ..	.....
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
35	"Howrah Hitakari"	Bethar, Howrah	300	
36	"Murshidābād Patrikā"	Berhampore ... ..	.....	23rd August 1878.
37	"Barisāl Vārtābāha"	Barisāl	300	
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
38	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	400	24th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Bi-monthly.</i>				
39	"Akhbār-ul-Akhiār"	Mazufferpore ... ..	.....
HINDI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
40	"Behār Bandhu"	Bankipore, Patna	509	21st and 28th August 1878.
41	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta ... ..	.....
PERSIAN.				
42	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Ditto	250	23rd August 1878.

POLITICAL.

BISHWA DUTA.
August 28th, 1878.

1. The *Biswa Duta* fears, that many will attribute the desire of England to enter into friendly relations with Cábul, to a fear of the Russian bear, but there

The contemplated Embassy to Cábul. is no need for the English to make any advances to the Amir. Let the Government here be but administered liberally, the distinction of color set aside, and equal rights secured to its subjects, and India will be an impregnable fort, Russia and *Cábul* may, then, together hammer away at its gates for 20 years without avail. It seems there will be a delay in the despatch of the mission owing to the death of Abdullah Ján, the Amir's son. We entreat Lord Lytton meanwhile to consider well whether it is right or not to despatch the Embassy.

SOM PRAKASH,
August 26th, 1878.

2. The *Som Prakasha*, commenting on the Anglo-Turkish Convention, says, that Russia has, ever since the Crimean war, been an enemy of England. She seeks

The Anglo-Turkish Convention. India, and England stands in her way. Now, if, after thus thwarting Russia and exciting her anger, the Ministry had, as was urged by Mr. Gladstone and others, believed in her honesty of purpose and pursued a policy of neutrality, there can be no doubt that, in the end, the English would have been involved in inextricable difficulties. The Anglo-Turkish Convention is a proof that they have been alive to what was needed. This is owing to the profound statesmanship of Lord Beaconsfield, who has retrieved the error he at first committed. The Editor thanks Lord Lytton and the Press Commissioner, Mr. Lethbridge, for having placed the papers on this subject at the disposal of the Native Editors. It is very necessary that such official information should be supplied to native newspapers. For want of it, the best intentioned acts of Government are misconstrued.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

BHARAT MIHIR,
August 22nd, 1878.

3. The *Bhárat Mihir*, referring to the rumour that a Circular has been issued by the High Court requiring either

The High Court Circulars. photographs or descriptions of the persons of witnesses to be supplied by the parties summoning them, observes that the High Court shows the same activity in the issue of its circulars that the Legislative Council does in the passing of its Acts. The object of this new requisition on the part of the Court may be a laudable one, but it puts the suitors to a trouble and expense of which the court has no conception. No one who has once had recourse to law, can, after that, recover prosperity or comfort, except he is wealthy or a zamindár, for all he gets is a paper decree. In fact, the condition of this class of suitors is worse than that of the poor. Not long ago a circular was issued relative to summonses and notices to witnesses, which increased the expense to which suitors were put. Hitherto one fee has sufficed for any number of witnesses residing in the same *perganah*; now an extra fee is demanded where there are more than four witnesses to be summoned. And it is the same with notices; and, now to add to the hard fate of suitors, this new circular has been issued.

BHARAT MIHIR.

4. The *Bhárat Mihir* observes, that owing to a defect in his education and natural character, Sir Ashley Eden is opposed to the spread of independence.

Sir Ashley Eden's policy. This tendency has betrayed itself in every thing he has done from the time he assumed the reins of government in Bengal. The change recently introduced by him into the Education Department is but a fresh illustration of this. Who can doubt the desirableness of giving educational officers independent responsibility, and holding them answerable for the advancement

or otherwise of education, instead of making them mere machines in the hands of Magistrates and Commissioners? We have been hearing from our childhood that the Government was training us to self-government; intending to make the country over to us as soon as we had learnt to administer it. To instruct us with this view has been the main design of the Government. Up to what time we continued to believe that this was what the Government sought to do, and when it was that this belief was destroyed within us, we need not say. What we do say, however, is this, that, although Sir George Campbell was a revolutionist, he had true greatness of nature. He put aside the pet notion and the idle talk about teaching the people to govern themselves, and set to to furnish a practical illustration of how the work of governing was to be done. Sir Ashley Eden could not bear this. The natives are not to learn independence or to act independently during his time. His knowledge of administration began with India, and it will end with India. We cannot therefore expect any greater liberality in India. Look at his conduct in respect of the Calcutta Municipality. Because of independent spirits like *Suréndranáth Banerji* and others who will not say *ditto* to their Chairman, Mr. Metcalfe, Sir Ashley Eden has firmly resolved to do away with the Corporation. The *Mirror* says he visited Calcutta for a few days for this purpose alone. He has put himself in battle-array against independent action on the part of the Municipality for the very same reasons that moved him to bar up the heart of the vernacular press, and dam up the channels of its independent speech. Government is not acting rightly in substituting a harsh for a liberal policy. We are not such blockheads as to venerate fear. In proportion as this Government practices a generous policy, will the nation also be satisfied and attach itself to the ruling power. There is no doubt the people will gradually become dissatisfied with Sir Ashley Eden's policy.

5. The *Bhārat Mihir* says that, when it first heard of Mr. Lethbridge's appointment to be Press Commissioner, the first thought was that if, instead of passing

The Press Commissioner.

Act IX, Lord Lytton had appointed Mr. Lethbridge to look after the news papers, the necessity for the Act would have ceased in a year. The newspaper press in its inner heart is not maliciously disposed to the Government. The contempt for the Native Press grew during Lord Northbrook's administration. Harshness begets harshness, and distrust begets distrust; and so the Native Papers became severe in proportion to the contempt which the Government showed. If the Government had appointed some one like Mr. Lethbridge, and given the Native Papers facilities for obtaining information, and had sought to establish a good feeling between itself and the newspapers by reposing confidence in them, there would not have been the antagonisms there are in India.

BHARAT MIHIR,
August 22nd, 1878.

6. The *Faridpur* correspondent of the *Bhārat Mihir* states that several poor persons from the *mafussal* failed to get their taxes remitted at the last Municipal meeting.

Taxation by the Municipality.

In addition to the general distress and the scarcity of food, to have to pay taxes, and on failure to do so on the appointed day, to have one's brass utensils &c., sold, is a great hardship. It would not be so distressing, however, if any benefit were derived by the public from the payment of this tax.

BHARAT MIHIR.

7. The *Samāchāra Chandrikā* hails with delight the prospect of a monster petition for the release of the *Purī Rājā*. The monster petition written in four different languages and signed by *Mahārājās, Rājās,* and *zamindārs* to be presented to the Lieutenant-Governor for the release of the *Purī Rājā*, between whose case and that of *Navin* a comparison,

SAMACHARA
CHANDRIKA,
August 23rd, 1878.

favourable altogether to the former, is made. *Navin* was a compositor and he killed his wife, whereas the *Rájá* of *Purí* is a highly honorable man, the servant of *Jagurnáth*, and he only took the life of a beggar. The fact that he was found guilty, and that he has been punished, compels us to believe in his guilt, though, otherwise, we could not say that he was the murderer. The public showed great sympathy for *Navin*; but the *Rájá* deserves sympathy a thousand times more, for he is an independent Prince sentenced to transportation for life, and now engaged in breaking stones and turning the oil machine. All Hindus and those who venerate *Jagurnáth*, should join in the petition for the *Rájá's* release; otherwise, we shall be called ungrateful, and must be answerable to God for our neglect of duty.

JAM JAHANNUMA,
August 23rd, 1878.

8. The *Jám Jahánnumá* says, it is a subject of universal talk in the town of Calcutta, that persons without occupation or profession, or who have lost what occupation or profession they had, are still required to pay the license tax on the strength of the occupation or profession they formerly had; whilst in the case of shop-keepers, not only are their shops assessed, but they are also separately assessed with respect to their occupation. The writer knows that Government would never order so illegal an imposition.

The License Tax in Calcutta.

BHARAT SANSKARAK,
August 23rd, 1878.

9. The passing of the Vernacular Press Act in one day and at one sitting, observes the *Bhárat Sanskárak*, produced in the minds of the natives two fears, 1st, that the English Government had arrived at same dangerous crisis the only practicable remedy for which was the stopping of the mouths of the natives, and, 2nd, that the English Government had adopted the absolute rule of the Moguls and others. The subsequent agitation on the subject of the Act served in a great measure to dispel these fears; and we are thankful to the Governor of Madras for his good wishes, and to the Secretary of State for amending some of the obnoxious portions of the Act. We build many hopes for the future on the support given to us by Mr. Gladstone and others, and the lively interest taken by Parliament in the matter of this Act: the discussion brought out the independent thought, the frank and liberal nature of the English, and their sympathy for the weak. Although defeated, Mr. Gladstone and his party have managed to extract the sting from the Act; for, if the penal clauses of the Act should at any time be put into force against any native newspaper, the matter will be sure to be agitated in Parliament. Government officially will not, we think, venture to practice absolutism on the Native Papers. The article concludes with approving of the contemplated meeting to be held under the auspices of the Indian Association, with the object of tendering the thanks of the Indian public to Mr. Gladstone and his party. This paper is also glad to learn that a standing committee is to be formed in England to keep agitating the matter of the Press Act, till the law is repealed.

The Press Act.

SAMBAD PURNACHUNDRODAYA,
August 24th, 1878.

10. The *Sambád Purnachandrodaya* thought that Sir Ashley Eden came down to Calcutta to take measures for the relief of the people of Eastern Bengal, who have been suffering from the late floods. It is rumoured, however, that he came for the purpose of getting rid of the elective municipal system here. If he can manage to effect this, it will be conclusive proof of his friendly feeling towards Bengal, and no Bengali will henceforward use any water in the morning without first repeating his name.

Rumour as to the abolition of the elective municipal system.

DACCA PRAKASH,
August 25th, 1878.

11. A correspondent of this paper writing from *Hárbháng* in *Chittagong*, under date the 17th ultimo, notices the unprincipled character of the *pancháyets*, and observes that, although Government acted with

The *Pancháyets* and license-tax and house-tax assessments.

the noblest motives in entrusting this body of men with the work of making assessments under the License Tax and House Tax Acts, the corruption of the members has brought about a result very different from what was anticipated. The inhabitants are all poor, and they support themselves by begging; the hardships occasioned, therefore, by inequitable assessments may be easily conceived. The writer hopes that the circle officer will act with discretion and moderation.

SADHARANI,
August 25th, 1878.

12. The *Sadhārani* observes that, when salaries paid in England come to be compared with those paid in India, it will be found that in no country in the world are officials remunerated so highly as here: a High Court Judge receives as much as the Premier of England. The Lieutenant-Governor gets a lakh a year. The highest pay of a Principal of a College in the United States is Rs. 500, the sum which a Professor of one of our Colleges gets when he is first appointed. Again, a native would be immeasurably pleased to do the same work as a *Sáhib* drawing a high salary, on half of what he gets, and it is probable he would perform it well. It would perhaps be superfluous to say that these large salaries are enjoyed by the ruling class; the few natives who receive high pay can be counted on the fingers, and their incomes in no case reach that of the *Sáhibs*. It was resolved to give high salaries during Mr. Vansittart's time, to stop Government officials from taking bribes; now times are changed; if salaries were reduced, we do not believe the bribe system would be reverted to. In this very land, where a *Rámprasád Ráya* did not hesitate to put out his right hand (for a bribe), the commonest *amlah* would now despise the thought. Let such salaries be given as will suffice to keep one comfortably. What we object to is that large emoluments should be drawn by persons who only sign their names. It is the incomes of these that ought to be reduced. We shall then be able to make up the deficit in the annual budget, and do away with a taxation which, when once imposed, it is difficult to get rid of.

13. The *Som Prakásha* thus comments on the new draft Bill entrusted by Sir Ashley Eden to the *Mahárajá Jotindramohan Tagore* and the *Hon'ble Krishto Dás Pál*, for the purpose of facilitating the collection of rents by *zamindárs*. The Bill fixes the months of *Shrávana*, *Kártik*, *Mágh*, and *Vaisákh* as those in which the four instalments of rent are to be paid. We do not consider this a good provision. The ryots now pay in the months of *Ashvin*, *Paus*, and *Chaitra*, and we know that the *Ashvin* payment is met with difficulty. Many are not able to meet this instalment, and from these an interest of four annas in the rupee is taken. Since, then, they are not able to pay in *Ashvin*, it is not likely that they will be able to do so in *Shrávana*; so that this provision of the Bill will place them in great difficulty. The prices of articles rise every year in *Shravana*, which is also the time when the expenses of cultivation must be met; and if, in addition to this, the ryots are required to pay their rents, it will be simply impossible for them to carry on their cultivation. Other evils also are likely to befall the peasant who has happened to incur the displeasure of his *zamindár*. It is provided that in case of failure to pay the rent on the day fixed, the rent due will be held to be in arrears from sunset of that day, and interest will be charged at the rate of 12 per cent. If this measure becomes law, it will add insult to injury. *Paus* and *Mágh* are the proper months for paying the *zamindár's* rent. In our opinion, it would be well if payment in *Ashvin* were not required. The argument, that the *zamindár* is obliged to pay an instalment of his revenue in the month of *Ashárh*, and that he will not be able to do so unless the tenants pay him, may be dismissed with the remark that he who derives profit must not expect to be free

SOM PRAKASH,
August 26th, 1878.

from trouble. According to the draft Bill, failure to pay the rent will make it competent for the *zamindár* to realize the rent by the sale of the ryot's property; thus clearly showing that the object of the proposed legislation is only indirectly to bring ruin upon the poor tenantry; for there are few peasants in India who are able promptly to respond to the *zamindár's* demand for rent.

Again, there is provision made in the Bill for transfer of occupancy rights by sale or mortgage and subsequent registration in the books of the *zamindár*. Excepting that this recognizes a certain proprietary right on the part of the peasant in the land, there is no good which is likely to accrue from this provision; a little consideration, however, will show that it must benefit the landlord. The ryots are, as a class, ignorant and without forethought. Engrossed with the cares of the present moment, they do not bestow a thought on the future. They live from hand to mouth. It is, therefore, but natural to suppose that they will, on the slightest necessity arising, part with their proprietary rights; and this, depending as they do solely on the land for their means of livelihood, would be the greatest calamity that could befall them. A rule, to the effect that they should not be competent to make such transfers, would rather be beneficial to them.

In another section, it is proposed to award to the *zamindáre*, when suing a defaulting tenant compensation to the limit of 25 per cent. In all disputes with landlords, it is the tenant who is generally defeated, harassed, and impoverished. It will be easy indeed for the *zamindars* to prove that their tenants have by their refusal to pay rent put them to loss in various ways. The proposed measure, then, is fraught with danger to the tenant, and we would respectfully request Sir Ashley Eden not to allow the Bill to be passed into law without full consideration.

SAHACHARA,
August 26th, 1878.

14. The *Sahachara*, whilst belauding the Indian Association for the step it has taken in convening a public meeting to thank Mr. Gladstone and his party for their support of the appeal against the Press Act, seizes the opportunity to rebuke the British Indian Association for its silence when the Press Act threatened to deprive the natives of liberty of speech, a liberty for which now they must rest dependent on the favor of officials. The British Indian Association did not hesitate to go up to the Duke of Argyll on the Summary Procedure: do they then approve of the Press Act? We reply, no. Two reasons are given to account for their silence: 1st, that *Mahárájá Jotindra Mohan* gave his assent to the Act, and 2nd, that the Association did not wish to displease Sir Ashley Eden. The few members who conduct the affairs of the Association are not only the Lieutenant-Governor's acquaintances, but his friends and favorites; and they did not wish to attack his favorite Press Act. We do not blame the *Mahárájá*; we would rather praise him for acting according to his judgment. Still, we maintain that he fell into an error, inasmuch as he did not attempt to guard the interests of his fellow countrymen. There is, no doubt, much benefit to be derived from being a favorite of the head of the administration; but cannot friendship be shown by upholding the interest of one's own country at the same time? Although the old kindly feelings no longer exist between Mr. Eden and Bengal, yet we are ever ready to show our approval of the many good things he has done. We blame where there is fault, and we show friendship to friends. We do not believe that Mr. Eden asked the chief members of the British Indian Association to forget their country: for *Rájá Digambar Mitra* and others would not have supported him. We know not the real cause; we have only mentioned that which is rumoured. One fact, however, remains, and that is the silence of an Association which

claims to be the representative of the country. This is a claim which has been too readily admitted hitherto. We do not wish to give up the Association; but if it perseveres in its present line of policy, it will have to come down from its lofty position.

15. The *Sahachara*, in noticing Sir Ashley Eden's Resolution on the Bengal Police, speaks of him as the friend of the personal liberty of the subject. We, however, cannot refrain from putting him a question, although we know it is out of place:—Why is an individual like him, who is such a friend of personal liberty, the enemy of mental independence? Sir Ashley Eden objects to a reputed *badmáish* (a bad character) being sent to Jail on the ground that he may hereafter commit a crime; yet is not the Press Act based on the same principle as that which Mr. Eden condemns in the conduct of the police? The Court will punish a crime; but the same person must not be judge, investigator, and accuser. The Lieutenant-Governor has spoken out aloud, and very rightly, as to *badmáishes*; why then is the same right denied to the *badmáishes* of the Press? Is there not an inconsistency here? We wish to ask Sir Ashley Eden whether the editors of the vernacular papers would be tried by a duly constituted Court if they entered their names in the books as *badmáishes*? We our brethren are ready to do this to-morrow. But the very person who is crying aloud that ignorant men and bad characters should not be punished without a fault or a trial, denies this same right to the educated people of this country, and to those who make known the opinions of all classes!!!

SAMACHARA,
August 26th, 1878.

16. Referring to the liquidation in May 1879 of the $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. loan of 1859 by a transfer loan of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., the *Sámáchara Chandriká* likens the operation to that of filling up one tank and digging another. The Government of India is making its blanket heavier. As the transfer loan of 1879 will be for double the amount of the one it is to supersede, Government will thus be increasing its debt every decade. Let it work carefully, else there will most likely be trouble. The custom of borrowing was formerly unknown in our country; the English have taught us to borrow. Money can now be had on a note of hand, whereas formerly there was no borrowing without a deposit of jewellery. We are imitating the English and getting entangled in the meshes of debt.

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
August 26th, 1878.

17. The *Sambad Purnachandrodaya* urges on Government the necessity of improving the *status* of Civil Court *amíns* by attaching higher salaries to the office, and making men of the *Munsif* class alone eligible. *Amíns* have very important duties to perform, and many a weighty and complicated question is settled on their reports. Government does not contribute a pice towards their remuneration. They are paid down to their dieting expenses by the parties in the case. The Judges are often too busy to conduct local investigations in person; and where poor suitors are unable to meet the cost of an *amín*, the case is disposed of without the needful local inquiry. Apart from this, the public has no confidence in the present class of *amíns* as a body.

SAMBAD PURNA-
CHANDRODAYA,
August 26th, 1878.

18. The *Bardwán Sanjivani*, in giving Mr. Tobin, the Joint-Magistrate, every credit for being a worthy and painstaking officer, expresses its regret at his not allowing any one, except *vakíls*, *muktiárs*, and *amlas*, to enter his Court with shoes on. The *darwán* orders every person, without distinction, to leave his shoes behind. We alluded to this subject once before without success. We believe Mr. Tobin has not reflected that it is the greatest degradation

BARDWAN SANJIVANI,
August 27th, 1878.

for a respectable man to have to take off his shoes before entering a court of justice; any one is allowed to go into the Judge's and Magistrate's courts here with his shoes on. We trust Mr. Tobin will cancel this disgraceful order, and save his good name and reputation.

BARDWAN SANJIVANI,
August 27th, 1878.

19. After quoting that portion of the Queen's speech which refers to the Indian Contingent, this paper remarks that such notice from the Sovereign, and the uttering of such loving words from the lips of India's Empress, are like the pouring of water on the scorched heart or like life breathed into a dead body. They have made our saddened hearts, leap with joy. These words, even if they had not been new, would still have enlivened us with hope in such unfortunate times. She has clearly come to know that we are loyal. We have now no more fears at the thousand attempts to injure us made by the little minds that do not like to see us prosper. May God grant long life to our Empress who seeks the welfare of her subjects.

The Queen's speech.

SAMBAD PRABHAKAR,
August 27th, 1878.

20. The *Sambád Prabhákara* disapproves of the severity of tone adopted by Mr. O'Donnell in his speech in Parliament on the subject of the Press Act. We do not desire to see Lord Lytton held up to reproach in the civilized world; for neither he nor Sir Ashley Eden, nor any of the others, is our enemy. These men made a mistake and committed an injustice through ignorance. We would like the Act to be repealed; but we do not want these men to be reproached. Sir George Campbell on the eve of his departure gave the Bengalis much trouble; still they will long feel grateful to him, because he always showed himself generously disposed on the subject of the freedom of the Native Press. It was through him that we came to know the secret opinions of our rulers.

Parliament and the Press Act.

BISHWA DUT,
August 28th, 1878.

21. The *Bishwa Dúta* thinks that there would be no lack of military talent amongst natives, if Government only gave it encouragement by appointing natives to military commands. Such encouragement would increase their loyalty and attachment to the British Government, and it would lead to a considerable reduction of expenditure.

Encouragement to be given to military talent.

EDUCATION.

SOM PRAKASH,
August 28th, 1878.

22. The *Som Prakásha* observes, with regret, that the scheme for the introduction of grades among the subordinate officers of the Education Department, which has received the sanction of the Government of India and the Secretary of State, is but another illustration of the fact that those who are well off in life have more given to them, while the really needy are passed over. The late Mr. Atkinson proposed Rs. 15 for the lowest grade: Mr. Croft, the present Director of Public Instruction, at the instance of the Lieutenant-Governor, made Rs. 30 the lowest limit which should entitle a teacher to the benefit of the scheme. Lord Lytton, however, on what grounds it is not known, raised the sum to Rs. 50. This has had the effect of excluding a hardworked class of men, possessed of slender means, from a privilege they were most in need of, at a time, too, when every thing is dear. The Viceroy is besought to reconsider the matter; the more so as Sir Ashley Eden and Mr. Croft fixed the limit at Rs. 30, with the full knowledge of the state and wants of the Education Department.

The recently graded subordinate teachers of the Education Department.

BHARAT
SANSKARAK,
August 23rd, 1878.

23. The *Bhárat Sanskárak* feels certain that the agitation in Bengali society on the subject of Mr. Garrett's proposal will ultimately prove beneficial. To put an abrupt stop to married candidates appearing at the Entrance Exam-

Child-marriage.

nation will injure poor lads who marry, not of their own will, but to please their parents, and who ought not, therefore, to be made to suffer. A plan like the following may be tried: Let separate lists of married students be made out, and let none of these although they may pass the examination, receive the money scholarship; or let them at least forfeit some portion of the award to which they would otherwise have been entitled. This will instil fear into both pupils and parents. Again, the very rich and the very poor do not care for University honors; a little education just to go on with, suffices for them. It is the lads belonging to the middle classes that will be the sufferers; their parents are poor, and they get them married early into well-to-do families with the view to bring a good education within their reach.

24. The *Bardwán Sanjivani* notices that, as before, the examiners selected for conducting the junior and intermediate scholarship examinations of the Western division this year, will consist, for the most part, of teachers of the English schools. The writer would recommend that, with a view to encourage the head-masters of the English aided schools, an equal number of examiners should be chosen from this class. This would be better than having clerks and doctors to do the work.

BARDWAN SANJIVANI,
August 27th, 1878.

25. The *Sambád Prabhákara* is of opinion that the taking of a fee of only Rs. 2 for the admission of out-students to the examination for titles for proficiency in *Sanskrita*, will neither induce young men to come forward nor tend to the encouragement of the study of that well-nigh extinct language. Government should do something more than offer empty titles, if it wishes to resuscitate *Sanskrita* literature. This literature suffered seriously at the hands of the *Muhammadans*, who destroyed *Sanskrita* works by hundreds. The English Government has supplied many of our wants: it ought also now to bring our almost lifeless *Sanskrita* to life again. The Editor approves of the suggestion made by *Pandita Maheshchandra Nyáyaratna*, Principal of the *Sanskrita College*, that money prizes should be given to successful students.

SAMBAD PRABHAKAR,
August 28th, 1878.

FAMINE.

26. The *Rangpur* correspondent of the *Hindu Ránjiká* says, that the people are suffering from scarcity of food, and that tidings have been received of the death of some from starvation. Heavy rains in some places, drought in others, and floods in others, have contributed to destroy the *ashu paddy*. The state of the *hémanta* crop is very bad. North-Eastern Bengal, which has hitherto produced an unlimited supply of grain, is the first to be visited with famine.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
August 21st, 1878.

27. The *Furídpur* correspondent of the *Bhárat Mihir* reports that rice is selling at eight seers, and that there are no importations. Two or three burglaries are reported every night. Four persons were some time ago caught in the act of stealing rice. Beggars are on the increase, consisting not only of the usual *Vaishnavas*, and the blind and sick, but of householders; the *Baunas*, a race whose occupation is working on roads and excavating tanks, are in great distress. The Magistrate should find some work for them.

BHARAT MIHIR,
August 22nd, 1878.

28. The *Tángáil* correspondent of this paper writes, that the *ashu paddy* has suffered much from the water, though the *aman* has benefited; the water is falling and there is no rain; beggars are increasing; rice is selling now at 14 seers *catchá* weight.

BHARAT MIHIR.

PRATIKAR,
August 23rd, 1878.

29. The *Pratikara* expresses great satisfaction at a recent decision of the Joint-Magistrate Mr. Kirkwood, who, when a native woman was brought up for stealing a brass *lotah*, not only released her because she pleaded hunger, but directed *Rájivlochana Bábu*, the Dewan or Minister of the *Máhárani*, to see to her being cared for till food became cheaper. The editor remarks that most of the thefts that take place are to be attributed to want of food, and these thefts will increase if the price of food-grains does not soon fall.

BISHWA DUT,
August 28th, 1878.

30. The *Mymensingh* correspondent of the *Bishwa Duta* says that the condition of the people here can best be imagined from the fact of rice selling in the town at eight or nine seers, and, in many places in the *mafussal*, at five or six seers for the rupee. The distress arising from scarcity of food will not be allayed so long as the jute cultivation is extensive.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
August 28th, 1878.

31. The month of *Bhádros* is the time when the *aus* crop is specially abundant, and when there is a plentiful supply of rice; but half this month has gone, and rice is becoming steadily dearer. The people have no hope that there will be any more crop. Their eyes are turned to their rulers in the hope that something will be done. Exportation should be stopped for a while, otherwise the country will never recover itself.

BEHAR BANDHU,
August 28th, 1878.

32. The *Behar Bandhu*, after enumerating the several influences that, in his opinion, contribute to produce famine in this country, says that famine cannot be got rid of by the exertions of Government alone. The *zamindárs* must put their shoulders to the wheel.

LOCAL.

BEHARAT MIHIR,
August 22nd, 1878.

33. The *Bharat Mihir*, in its local columns, complains of the bad state of the roads and drains in *Mymensingh*. Complaints against the *Mymensingh* municipality. The people have no confidence in the Municipality of the place. The present Vice-Chairman is a person whom all can trust; but he is unable to do anything for want of funds. Since the rates of taxation are not so great here as in other places, it would be well to repair the roads and drains by having recourse to some kind of temporary taxation.

BEHARAT MIHIR.

34. The *Tangail* correspondent of this paper observes that the *chaukidars* seize all cattle found on the municipal road passing through the village, and place them in the pound. This is represented as adding to the distress of the people. Complaints respecting the impounding of cattle in *Tangail*.

DACCA PRAKASH,
August 25th, 1878.

35. The *Dacca Prakash* is gratified to learn that the Commissioner of the Division has asked Government to appoint an officer to attend to the sanitation of the town and to inspect the privies. The writer would advise the appointment of a Commission for this purpose, and observes that the following are generally considered to be the causes of the unhealthiness of *Dacca*:—*First*, the *jangle* and marshes on the north of the town. When the wind blows from the north-west, the unwholesome vapours generated here are brought to the city. The *Tengár jangles* ought to be seen to. *Second*, the free use of the impure water of the *Burigangá*, *third*, narrow streets and closely packed dwellings; *fourth*, increase of population; *fifth*, the extensive consumption by the people of rotten fish, flesh, and fruit; *sixth*, the abundance of old and close well privies, which have no outlet for their contents and generate noxious gases, and the lanes reeking with filth and decomposing matter. These are never cleaned in consequence of the Municipal Committee neglecting to inspect them. Causes to which the present unhealthy state of *Dacca* is to be attributed.

36. A correspondent writes to the *Som Prakásha* complaining of the misuse of the surplus funds of the *Páñiháti* Municipality, available after paying the police.

Complaint against the *Páñiháti* Municipality.

SOM PRAKASH,
August 26th, 1878.

An overseer, *sarkár*, and some coolies are engaged to do the work of this important village, and yet the roads, &c., are in a very bad condition. Through want of attention to the drainage, the water collects and stagnates to the detriment of the property and health of the residents. Neither the Magistrate, nor the police, nor the Municipality will see this. The one ferry-fund road which is in existence, has had no repairs done to it for the past ten years. The *catchá* road, a small portion only of which was made *paccá* last year, which runs west, from Barrackpore to the *Páñiháti bazár*, has been closed on account of accidents that happened to carriages and carts passing over it; so that the route for conveyances lies now through this village, which has become like a river during these rains. The other members of the municipality look after the improvement of their own villages to the neglect of this. A rule should be made that the wants of the place which supplies the surplus funds should first be attended to, and then other places may be attended to. As it is, we do not get even half the income of the ferry-fund here, amounting to about Rs. 11 or 1,200 per annum; the money is placed with the Serampore Magistrate, and expended by him as he chooses. The District Magistrate is entreated to look into the matter.

37. The *Gyá* correspondent of the *Som Prakásha* writes of the very deplorable condition of the peasant population of *Gyá*, whose only resource is unremitting toil. They can scarcely secure a sufficient

Deplorable state of the peasant population of *Gyá*.

SOM PRAKASH.

livelihood for themselves, having sometimes to go without food or to content themselves with pot-herbs. They merely get a portion of the produce of the land which they till, and are entirely at the mercy of the *zamindár*, whose *abwábs* they are obliged to meet whenever Government imposes a fresh tax. The laborers are another wretchedly paid lot, receiving 5 or 6 pice a day, with which they are expected to support their families; and it must be mentioned here, that in *Gyá* there are 80 such pice to the rupee. The majority of the poor in this district are blind, deaf, and otherwise afflicted with disease. The drought this year has caused a scarcity in grain, and many peasants have not been able even to sow their fields. Last year the crops were not good, and articles became dear; if the same happens this year, there will be endless distress. The following is a comparative list of the prices of the different kinds of rice and grain, during the last and present years:—

		Rate per rupee last year.	Rate per rupee present year.
		Srs.	Srs.
Fine rice	...	14 to 14½	7 to 7½
Coarse rice	...	18 to 19	9 to 10
Wheat	...	19 to 20	11 to 11½
Peas	...	20 to 21	10 to 11
Mung-dál	...	13	8
Tikri	...	24	12
Gram	...	19 to 19½	11 to 11½
Barley	...	15 to 15½	7 to 8

38. The *Bardwán Sanjivani* in its local columns complains of the ferry contractor of the *Káshtagolá ghát* charging four pice for crossing the *Damodar* river on days when there is a great flood, the regulated charge being only

Complaints about the *Damodar* ferry and the *Mahájantoli* road.

BARDWAN SANJIVANI,
August 27th, 1878.

one pice. The Magistrate is asked to test the truth of this charge by unexpectedly visiting the place on the day of a flood. Complaints, too, have been made by correspondents about the inconvenience and trouble which passengers suffer in crossing the river and the *Uchhanálá* canal, especially in the present rainy season. These people contribute to the Road Cess Fund, the managers of which should look into the matter. A complaint is also made about bad *kankar* (gravel) being used in metalling the *Mahájantolí* road, and it is asked who will be responsible for such waste of public money.

BARDWAN SANJIVANI,
August 27th, 1878.

39. An anonymous correspondent of this paper attributes the great falling off in the number of suits in *Catwá*, which is the principal *chauki* in the district of *Bardwán*, to the circumstance of witnesses being required by the Munsif to come back and give their evidence three and four times over in each case, to their great inconvenience. If the *Munsif Bábu* exerted himself but a little, many suits could be decided. It is also said that, whereas the rule is to return any surplus money deposited for the dieting and expenses of witnesses without any stamp fee, the present *Munsif* directs it to be retained for Government; and if in any instance he does out of compassion return any surplus, he requires a court fee to be given in proportion to the claim.

BARDWAN SANJIVANI.

40. The *Jamálpore* correspondent of the *Burdwán Sanjivani* writes saying that fever and cholera are raging with great virulence in the place. The price of edibles has not fallen at all.

41. After giving an account of the *darbár* lately held to present the *Rání Swarnamayí* with the Order of C.I.E., the *Sanbád Prabhákara* observes, that this mark of Her Majesty's pleasure towards the *Rání* has pleased every one in India: the only thing left to make the matter complete is to grant her the honor of a salute. *Ráya Rájivalochana*, *Ráya Báhádur*, to whose exertions, labours, and sound advice, the *Rání* owes all the renown she has acquired, should be made a *Rájá Báhádur*, and get the Order of the "Crown of India."

SANBÁD
PRABHAKARA,
August 29th, 1878.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 31st August 1878.

ROBERT ROBINSON,

Offg. Bengali Translator.